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2026 TOWN ELECTIONS

Celine Kimberly - Precinct 4

January 1, 2026 . 4:00 AM — 3 min read

COURTESY PHOTO/CELINE KIMBERLY

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What experiences and perspectives would you contribute to Town Meeting?

I have been a Winchester resident since 2019, and my family and I are deeply rooted in the life of our town. I am the owner of Nouvelle Maison in Winchester Center and the parent of four children in our community.

Running a local business requires careful budgeting, long-term planning, and a clear understanding of how town decisions affect both employers and residents. I understand firsthand how taxes, regulations, and economic policy shape our local economy. I also have a chance to meet Winchester residents at the store every day: I listen to their concerns, questions and opinions about the goings on in Winchester.

As a parent, I am invested in the strength of our schools, the safety of our neighborhoods, and the long-term sustainability of Winchester. I approach issues not only with today in mind, but with a focus on the kind of town we are building for the next generation.

I believe Town Meeting works best when members come prepared, ask thoughtful questions, listen respectfully, and focus on practical solutions. My experience living in different cities and countries has also given me perspective on creative problem-solving and thoughtful civic engagement.

Together, these experiences have shaped my commitment to fiscal responsibility, informed decision-making, and supporting families at every stage of life in Winchester.

What are two or three issues facing Winchester that you think are most important and what are your positions on them?

Winchester is facing important decisions around fiscal sustainability, school funding, and thoughtful growth.

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First, maintaining long-term financial stability is critical. Winchester must balance strong public services with responsible budgeting and careful consideration of tax impacts on residents and local businesses. I believe in thoughtful financial planning that avoids short-term fixes and focuses on long-term sustainability.

Second, continued investment in our schools and essential town services remains a priority. As a parent and former nonprofit leader, I understand how central strong schools and community programs are to maintaining Winchester's quality of life. We must ensure that funding decisions support students and families while remaining financially responsible.

Finally, as state mandates and housing requirements evolve, Winchester must approach growth and zoning thoughtfully. We should preserve the character of our neighbordhoods while also looking forward to new developments in town that will bring new families and help grow our tax base.

These issues require collaboration, careful review of the details, and a willingness to engage respectfully with differing viewpoints. I am committed to approaching each decision with preparation, balance, and the long-term interests of our town in mind.

What is a special challenge in your precinct that might not be faced in other precincts?

Precinct 4 runs along some large arteries such as Main Street, Highland Avenue and Grove Street. This creates unique considerations around traffic flow and cyclist / pedestrian safety. Many families in our precinct rely on Main Street corridors for walking to school, accessing the town center, and moving through the neighborhood.

Ensuring that sidewalks are safe, well-maintained, and thoughtf
designed for children and families is especially important. As development

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and traffic patterns evolve, we need to prioritize pedestrian and cyclist safety while balancing the needs of residents, businesses, and commuters.

Maintaining safe, walkable routes for our children is a responsibility that requires ongoing attention, careful planning, and collaboration.

Why should voters elect you to represent them?
Voters should elect me because I bring steady, practical leadership — especially in times of uncertainty.

As a small business owner, I have had to make thoughtful decisions through economic shifts, changing regulations, and unpredictable challenges. That experience has reinforced the importance of careful planning, clear priorities, and staying calm when circumstances are complex or evolving.

Through my leadership as co-president of the Winchester Family Action Network, I have also worked collaboratively with families, volunteers, and town partners to build our community in meaningful ways.

Town Meeting requires members who are prepared, level-headed, and willing to weigh competing considerations carefully. I am committed to approaching each decision with balance, independence, and a focus on Winchester's long-term stability.

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2026 TOWN ELECTIONS

13 YEARS OF DATA, ONE SATURDAY: Takeaways from Winchester's override vote and the races that surrounded it

Winchester News reviewed precinct-level election results from every annual town election since 2014 — 13 years of data covering turnout, ballot questions, Select Board races, School Committee contests and Planning Board results — and compared them against the March 21 preliminary numbers. The 2026 results have not yet been certified by Town

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With override rejected, Winchester shifts from campaigning to budget planning

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After Winchester voters rejected an $11.5 million Proposition 2 1/2 override on Election Day, March 21, the governing question in town has shifted from persuasion to arithmetic. Select Board member Bill McGonigle, who served on the Yes for Winchester campaign, said the defeat has changed how he approaches

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The biggest shakeup came in Precinct 7, where two officeholders lost in an 11-person contest, matching Precinct 4 for the busiest race.

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Winchester ZBA waives town regulations to move Washington/Swanton project along

Town officials have approved waivers of regulations for a residential/commercial development project at Washington and Swanton streets. The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on March 19 approved the waivers for a 40B project at 278-292 Washington St. and 12 and 16-20 Swanton St. in a special meeting preceding a

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EVENTS

Network for Social Justice to celebrate 35th anniversary

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: The Network For Social Justice turns 35 this spring! There will be a celebration on Saturday, April 11, from 7-9:30 p.m., at the Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St., Winchester. Connect with your local friends and neighbors as

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EVENTS

Winchester Community Music School presents Jazz Jam Session

The following was submitted by the Winchester Community Music School: On Saturday, March 28, join the community at Winchester Community Music School, 407 Highland Ave., for a Jazz Jam Session, an afternoon of fun, spontaneous jazz playing, beginning at 3 p.m. Instrumentalists and vocalists of all skill levels are

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